

HYMNS FOR 11 JANUARY

9.15AM

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Mark how the Lamb of God's self-offering
our human sinfulness takes on
in the birth-waters of the Jordan
as Jesus is baptized by John.
Hear how the voice from heaven thunders,
"Lo, this is my beloved Son."
See how in dove-like form
the Spirit descends on God's Anointed One.

From this assurance of God's favour
Jesus goes to the wilderness,
there to endure a time of testing
that readied him to teach and bless.
So we, by water and the Spirit
baptized into Christ's ministry,
are often led to paths of service,
through mazes of adversity.

Grant us, O God, the strength and courage
to live the faith our lips declare;
bless us in our baptismal calling;
Christ's royal priesthood help us share.
Turn us from every false allegiance,
that we may trust in Christ alone;
raise up in us a chosen people
transformed by love to be your own.

*Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b.1944) © 1990 Hope Publishing Co.
Music: Melody Strassbourg, 1545; Geneva, 1551; harm. Erik Routley (1917 – 1982).
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Here in this place new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in – the lost and forsaken;
gather us in – the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young – our lives are a mystery;
we are the old – who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in – the rich and the haughty;
gather us in – the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water;
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion;
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light-years away;
but here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in – all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text and music: Marty Haugen (1950-). © 1982 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

11am

165 as above

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O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
it fills the heart with ecstasy,
that God, the Son of God, should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake!

God sent no angel to our race
of higher or of lower place,
but wore the robe of human frame
for us, and to this lost world came.

For us he was baptized, and bore
his holy fast and hungered sore,
for us temptation sharp he knew;
for us the tempter overthrew.

For us he prayed; for us he taught;
for us his daily works he wrought;
by words and signs and actions thus
still seeking not himself, but us.

For us by wickedness betrayed,
scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
he bore the shameful cross and death;
for us at length gave up his breath.

For us he rose from death again;
for us he went on high to reign;
for us he sent his Spirit here,
to guide, to strengthen and to cheer.

To God whose boundless love has won
salvation for us through the Son,
to God the Father, glory be
both now and through eternity.

*Text: Latin (O amor quam, 15th cent.); tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885).
Music: Melody Trier MS (15th cent.); adapt. Michale Praetorius (1571-1621).
harm. George Radcliffe Woodward (1848-1934).
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